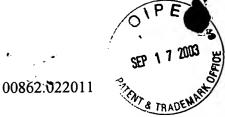
PATENT APPLICATION 16-6



Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	,
	:	Examiner: M. Nguyen
MINORU KUSAKABE, et al.)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 2626
Application No.: 09/671,623) :)	•
led: September 28, 2000)	
	:	
For: IMAGE PROCESSING)	September 16, 2003
APPARATUS AND METHOD,	:	RECEIVED
AND STORAGE MEDIUM)	ILOLIVED
		SEP 2 2 2003
Commissioner for Patents		Technology Center 2600
P O Box 1450		I COMOLOGY Center 2601

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to Japan 5-130376, which is listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of Japan 5-130376 is enclosed.

Japan 5-130376 was first cited in a Final Rejection for a Japanese Application corresponding to the subject application. A copy of the Final Rejection, which is date June 27, 2003, is enclosed. Also enclosed is an English-language abstract for Japan 5,130376.

Inasmuch as the subject application has not yet received a first Office...

Action, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the

claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,

California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to

our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 52,957

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New York, New York 10112-2200
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FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPÅRTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)		ATTY DOCKET NO. 00862.022011	APPLICATION N	PLICATION NO. 09/671,623				
		APPLICANT MINORU KUSAKABE, et al.						
(Use several sheets if necessary)			FILING DATE September 28, 2000		GROUP 2626			
		U.S	. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE		
OTPE					<u> </u>	<u></u>		
SEP 1 7 2003								
TRADEMANT OF					RECE	VED		
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		FORE	IGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT		
·	5-130376	5/25/93	Japan			Abstract		
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)								
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED					

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of form with next communication to applicant.